Amendment and Response Serial No.: 10/729,114

Confirmation No.: 3162 Filed: 5 December 2003

For: WOUND DRESSINGS AND METHODS

## Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the aboveidentified application:

## Listing of Claims

 (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising: an apertured liquid permeable substrate; and

an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition <u>coated on or impregnated in the substrate;</u>

wherein the wound dressing includes substrate apertures that are unobstructed by the polymer composition; and

wherein the absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition [[comprising]] comprises:

a hydrophobic organic polymer matrix;

1 wt-% to 60 wt-% hydrophilic organic microparticles, which when in a nonhydrated form have an average particle size of 10 microns or less; and mineral oil;

wherein the polymer matrix, microparticles, and mineral oil are present in the polymer composition in an amount effective to render the composition sufficiently nonadherent such that when coated on a substrate the nonadherent polymer composition displays a 180' peel strength from stainless steel of less than 1 N/cm.

 (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprises a styrene-isoprene-styrene copolymer, a styrene-butadiene-styrene copolymer, or mixtures thereof.

## 3-4. (Cancelled)

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(Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 4 wherein the microparticles when in a nonhydrated form have an average particle size of 1 micron or less.

- (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 5 wherein the microparticles when
  in a nonhydrated form have an average particle size of 0.5 micron or less.
- (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the apertured liquid permeable substrate comprises 1 to 225 apertures per square centimeter.
- (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the apertured liquid permeable substrate comprises apertures having an average opening size of 0.1 millimeter to 0.5 centimeter.
- (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the microparticles comprise an aminecontaining organic polymer.
- (Original) The wound dressing of claim 9 wherein the amine-containing organic polymer microparticles comprise a quaternary ammonium salt of an organic polymer.
- (Original) The wound dressing of claim 10 wherein the microparticles comprise a
  cationic homopolymer of the methyl chloride quaternary salt of 2-(dimethylamino)ethyl
  methacrylate.
- 12. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the microparticles comprise a copolymer of sodium acrylate and acrylic acid.
- (Cancelled)

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14. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition further comprises a bioactive agent.

- (Original) The wound dressing of claim 14 wherein the bioactive agent is an antimicrobial agent.
- 16. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the polymer composition further comprises one or more additional additives.
- 17. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprises a mixture of two or more polymers.
- 18. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the mineral oil is present in an amount of at least 60 wt-%, based on the total weight of the polymer composition.
- (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising:

   an apertured liquid permeable substrate; and
   an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition coated on or impregnated in the substrate;

wherein the wound dressing includes substrate apertures that are unobstructed by the polymer composition; and

wherein the absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition [[comprising]] comprises:

a hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprising a styrene-isoprene-styrene copolymer, a styrene-butadiene-styrene copolymer, or mixtures thereof;

1 wt-% to 60 wt-% hydrophilic microparticles comprising an amine-containing organic polymer, wherein when the microparticles are in a nonhydrated form they have an average particle size of 10 microns or less; and

mineral oil:

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wherein the polymer matrix, microparticles, and mineral oil are present in the polymer composition in an amount effective to render the composition sufficiently nonadherent such that when coated on a substrate the nonadherent polymer composition displays a 180' peel strength from stainless steel of less than 1 N/cm.

 (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising: an apertured liquid permeable substrate; and

an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition coated on or impregnated in the substrate:

wherein the wound dressing includes substrate apertures that are unobstructed by the polymer composition; and

wherein the absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition [[comprising]] comprises:

a hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprising a styrene-isoprene-styrene copolymer, a styrene-butadiene-styrene copolymer, or mixtures thereof;

1 wt-% to 60 wt-% hydrophilic microparticles comprising a sodium polyacrylate copolymer, wherein when the microparticles are in a nonhydrated form they have an average particle size of 10 microns or less; and

mineral oil;

wherein the polymer matrix, microparticles, and mineral oil are present in the polymer composition in an amount effective to render the composition sufficiently nonadherent such that when coated on a substrate [[it]]the nonadherent polymer composition displays a 180' peel strength from stainless steel of less than 1 N/cm.

- 21. (Original) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising applying the wound dressing of claim 1 to the wound.
- (Original) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising applying the wound dressing of claim 19 to the wound.

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 (Original) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising applying the wound dressing of claim 20 to the wound.

- 24. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprises a polyisobutylene, polyethylene-propylene rubber, polyethylene-propylene diene-modified rubber, polyisoprene, styrene-isoprene-styrene, styrene-butadiene-styrene, styrene-ethylene-propylene-styrene, styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene, or combinations thereof
- (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 24 wherein the hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprises styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene.
- (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of any of claims 1, 19, or 20 wherein the wound dressing is swollen.
- (Previously Presented) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising applying the wound dressing of claim 26 to a wound.
- (Previously Presented) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising: applying the wound dressing of any of claims 1, 19, or 20 to the wound; and swelling the wound dressing.

29-30. (Cancelled)